

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JULY 14, 2009

Senate Joint Resolution

No. 5

Introduced by Senators Wiggins and Pavley

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Chesbro, Evans, Huffman, *Jones, Lieu, Monning*, Nava, and Skinner)

March 25, 2009

Senate Joint Resolution No. 5—Relative to the federal Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries Boundary Modification and Protection Act.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SJR 5, as amended, Wiggins. Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries Boundary Modification and Protection Act.

This measure would call upon the Congress of the United States to quickly pass the federal Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries Boundary Modification and Protection Act and the President of the United States to expeditiously sign it into law.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Inclusion in the National Marine Sanctuary System
- 2 offers comprehensive and permanent protection to important
- 3 marine resources, large scale ecosystem management, and vital
- 4 oceanic research investments, while allowing for recreational,
- 5 shipping, and fishing activities; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Sonoma and Marin Counties' coastal waters just
- 7 south of Bodega Head are within the boundaries of the Gulf of the
- 8 Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries and

1 enjoy the protections and benefits of the National Marine Sanctuary
2 System; and

3 WHEREAS, The Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank
4 National Marine Sanctuaries Boundary Modification and Protection
5 Act (H.R. 223 and S. 212), authored by Congresswoman Lynn
6 Woolsey and sponsored by Senator Barbara Boxer, would adjust
7 the boundaries of those two marine sanctuaries north and westward
8 to add deeper and biologically important waters, and would extend
9 the boundaries of the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine
10 Sanctuary just past Point Arena, thus including the entire Sonoma
11 Coast and the southern Mendocino Coast; and

12 WHEREAS, The area encompassed by the Sonoma Coast and
13 southern Mendocino Coast is one of the most biologically rich
14 regions in the world. These waters are within one of the four coastal
15 upwelling zones on the planet, comprising only 1 percent of the
16 ocean, but producing 20 percent of the world's fish. Additionally,
17 the coastal estuaries of that area are important passages for
18 endangered salmon and steelhead, essential haul sites-places for
19 seals and sea lions, migration corridors for the California-Gray
20 ~~Whale~~ *gray whale* and other whale species, and prolific nurseries
21 for hundreds of aquatic species; and

22 WHEREAS, These important marine resources, among the
23 richest on the planet, must be protected from oil spills and other
24 forms of pollution; and

25 WHEREAS, By expanding the boundaries of the Gulf of the
26 Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries, the
27 Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine
28 Sanctuaries Boundary Modification and Protection Act (H.R. 223
29 and S. 212) will protect the University of California, Davis, Bodega
30 Marine Laboratory's investment in marine research, regional jobs
31 that are dependent on commercial and recreational fishing, tourism,
32 recreational uses, and indefinable aesthetic benefits; and

33 WHEREAS, A congressional and executive moratorium on
34 offshore oil exploration and exploitation was removed in 2008,
35 leaving these waters of special biological significance unprotected;
36 now, therefore, be it

37 *Resolved by the Senate and the Assembly of the State of*
38 *California, jointly,* That the Legislature joins with the Counties of
39 Marin, Mendocino, and Sonoma, the California Coastal
40 Commission, and the State Lands Commission to call upon the

1 Congress of the United States to quickly pass the Gulf of the
2 Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries
3 Boundary Modification and Protection Act (H.R. 223 and S. 212)
4 and the President of the United States to expeditiously sign that
5 act into law; and be it further

6 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
7 this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United
8 States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the
9 President pro Tempore of the Senate, to each Senator and
10 Representative from California in the Congress of the United
11 States, and to the Chairs of the House Committee on ~~National~~
12 *Natural* Resources and the Senate Committee on Commerce,
13 Science, and Transportation.